

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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P R 121430Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8784

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 4077

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, PARM, CA, RO

SUBJECT: CANADIAN/ROMANIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION

REF: A. STATE 119685, B. STATE 109621, C. OTTAWA 1928,
D. OTTAWA 2485

1. LAST WEEK DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PATAN TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT ROMANIAN/CANADIAN NUCLEAR BILATERAL TALKS WERE NOW GOING WELL, THAT COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WITH AECL WAS BEING SETTLED, AND THAT PRESIDENT OF ROMANIAN BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE,

VASILE VOLOSENIUC, WAS THEN IN OTTAWA DISCUSSING FINANCIAL ASPECTS WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT. IN SEPARATE CALL JULY 9, NCST PRESIDENT URSU GAVE AMBASSADOR MORE DETAILED BUT STRIKINGLY LESS POSITIVE ASSESSMENT OF CANADIAN TALKS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT INTERGOVERNMENTAL BILATERAL HAD BEEN INITIALED DURING HIS OTTAWA VISIT IN MAY, THAT ROMANIA WANTED TO SIGN THAT DOCUMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT THAT NO PROGRESS HAD SINCE BEEN MADE ON AECL COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT NOR ACCESS GAINED DIRECTLY TO CANADIAN FIRMS. HE ADDED THAT VOLOSENIUC WAS NOW DISCUSSING LOANS WITH CANADA, AND THAT ANOTHER DELEGATION WOULD SOON TAKE UP "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE" MATTERS (REFS C AND D).

2. IN VOICING HIS CONCERN URSU COMMENTED THAT NOWHERE DID HE SEE SIGNS OF POSITIVE US INFLUENCE IN THE CANADIAN/ROMANIAN
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NEGOTIATIONS. HE COMMENTED THAT THIS SEEMED CONTRARY TO THE

SUBSTANCE AND SPIRIT OF HIS HELPFUL TALKS IN WASHINGTON. PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU HAD JUST TALKED WITH HIM ABOUT THIS A DAY OR SO BEFORE, HE SAID, AND ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT HE WAS ASKING AMERICANS TO DO THEIR UTMOST TO INTERVENE WITH CANADIANS.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY FINDS IT EASY TO BELIEVE URSU MAY NOT HAVE IMMEDIATELY GRASPED INTERRELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TERMS OF NUCLEAR BILATERAL AGREEMENT, AND COMMERCIAL AND LICENSE AGREEMENTS AT TIME OF HIS OTTAWA VISIT, BUT HE APPEARED TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THEM WELL ENOUGH ON JULY 9, AND MORE CLEARLY SO THAN PATAN HAD DONE EARLIER.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: AMBASSADOR WILL BE IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK AT BEGINNING OF HOME LEAVE AND WOULD LIKE APPOINTMENT WITH OES: AMBASSADOR IRVING/MYRON KRATZER/DIXON HOYLE TO DISCUSS ROMANIAN NUCLEAR RELATIONS WITH CANADA AND US. REQUEST OES SUGGEST OTHER APPOINTMENTS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE. EMBASSY ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE BRIEF CABLE FROM DEPARTMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSION, AND ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM OTTAWA ON VOLOSENIUC'S MISSION AND CURRENT STATUS OF CANADIAN-ROMANIAN NUCLEAR DISCUSSIONS.
SCISSORS

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